

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the specification in the following manner.

Kindly delete the first paragraph on page 1, line 3 in its entirety.

~~This application is based on and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 with respect to Japanese Application No.2003-021088 filed on January 29,2003, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.~~

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at line 24 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph.

Fig.3 shows a cross sectional view of the outside handle as a whole taken along the section line A-A in Fig. 9;

Kindly replace paragraph (0020) beginning on page 5 with the following amended paragraph.

On the other hand, the handle portion 12 includes a handle base 14 and a handle cover 15. The handle cover 15 is provided on the handle base 14 so as to cover the handle base 14. The handle base 14 and the handle cover 15 made of resin form an outer shape or profile of the handle portion 12. The handle cover 15 is provided with a hinge arm (a arm portion) portion15a and a stroke arm portion 15b at one side (the left side in Fig 3, forward of the vehicle) and the other side (the right side in Fig 3, rear of the vehicle) respectively.

Kindly replace paragraph (0023) beginning on page 6 with the following amended paragraph.

As ~~describe~~ described above, the handle portion 12 is pivotally connected to the handle frame 13 with respect to the side of the hinge arm portion 15a (the convex portion 15c) within the predetermined range which is set by the bent portion 15j ~~is engaged with~~ engaging the bell crank 16.

Kindly replace paragraph (0024) beginning on page 6 with the following amended paragraph.

As illustrated in Fig 2, guiding grooves 13h are formed on side wall portions 13d and 13e of the handle frame 13 forming the first internal space S1 (and the second internal space S2). The guiding grooves 13h are provided along the assembling direction of the hinge arm portion 15a (the handle portion 12) so ~~extends~~ so as to extend along the assembling direction from the frame-side handle opening portion 13a to the bottom side of the handle frame 13 (the bottom in Fig 1). Then, the guiding grooves 13h are bent in a longitudinal direction of the side wall portions 13d and 13e. The hinge arm portion 15a includes side wall portions 15d and 15e extending to the bottom side of the handle frame 13 (the lower side in Fig 1). The hinge arm portion 15a further includes a cover wall portion 15f. ~~Pair~~ A pair of protrusions 15i is formed on the side wall portions 15d and 15e respectively and project in opposite directions (the right and left side in Fig 2). As described later, when the handle portion 12 is assembled to the handle frame 13, the protrusions 15i are engaged with the above-described guiding grooves 13h, and then the handle portion 12 is assembled to a predetermined position along the guiding grooves 13h

(that is, the assembling direction). When the handle portion 12 is located at the predetermined position, the handle portion 12 is pivotally connected to the handle frame 13 within the predetermined range.

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 8 with the amended paragraph.

In the hinge arm portion 15a, a guiding ~~pawls~~ parts 15g are provided so as to project in each direction which crosses at right angles as viewed in Fig.1. The FFC 24 is led to the outside along the hinge arm portion 15a and supported with both lateral sides being supported by the guiding parts 15g.

Kindly replace paragraph (0031) beginning on page 9 with the following amended paragraph.

Fig 4 illustrates the handle portion 12 which has been maximally rotated by an external force from a normal state (shown in Fig 1) to a full stroke state within the predetermined range. In this case, the connector 17 and the connector holder 18 are pivotally rotatable relative to the handle frame 13, and further rotatable relative to the hinge arm portion 15a. Therefore, even if the handle portion 12 is rotated, the connector 17 and the connector holder 18 do not interfere with the handle frame 13, and then the electrical connection between the connector 17 and the connector holder 18 is surely maintained. Then, the electrical connection between the FFC 24 in the handle side and the cable 19 in the vehicle body side is surely maintained via the connector 17 and the connector holder 18. When the handle portion 12 is returned from the full stroke state to the normal state (shown in Fig.1) after the

external force is released, the electrical connection is surely maintained as it is with the foregoing case.